

MOM JEANS ARE ACTUALLY COOL?

BLAME NORMCORE FOR THE COMEBACK. PAGE 17

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Thursday, March 6, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork



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United. "Little Ukraine" in the East Village has become a rallying point for Ukrainians living in NYC since the overseas crisis started.
Solidarity. Expats, from the young and tech-savvy to others worried about family members, are decrying the violence taking place. PAGE 02

CLOSE TO HOME



A memorial outside of the Ukrainian American Youth Association in the East Village shows photos of those who have died in the conflict in the Ukraine. / EMILY JOHNSON, METRO

Warning. Something fishy is going on in Chinatown

PAGE 04



Dating. Even if you're gay and I'm not, marry me! PAGE 18



So you won an Oscar.
What's next?

PAGES 14-15

Ryan Callahan. Rangers captain's ship has sailed

PAGE 23



1 NEWS

Call for letters

We want to hear from you!

Does Justin Bieber drive you crazy? How involved should the U.S. be in the situation between Russia and Ukraine? What's the best solution to bring universal prekindergarten to New York City? We want you to tell us! There's no better way to have your opinion heard than sharing it with hundreds of thousands Metro and Metro.us readers. So send your thoughts to us at letters@metro.us. Please keep it brief, preferably fewer than 100 words, and include your name and contact info. Be sure to watch for your letter in an upcoming edition of Metro or on Metro.us.

Quoted

"This is the beginning. There's a lot of work to do. The true victory would be if a real uprising starts to happen in Russia."

Mariya Soroka

New York's Ukrainians find purpose amid crisis

Conflict. Expats in "Little Ukraine" worry and work for change as the Ukrainian crisis continues to rage.

When news broke two weeks ago that Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich had been ousted following a day of bloodshed in Kiev, many people in New York's Ukrainian expat community gravitated toward Veselka.

The restaurant, which serves traditional foods like borscht and pierogies, has been a mainstay of the "Little Ukraine" community in the East Village for 50 years.

Stanislav Motrenko, 20, has worked at Veselka for a year since arriving from the Ukraine. His family is never far from his mind. "I usually call them once a week," he said. "But now I call every day, almost, because I'm worried."

Other rallying points in the East Village are the Ukrainian American Youth Association, where a memorial has sprung up honoring those killed in the Kiev clashes, and the Ukrainian Museum.

Natalie Sonevsky, 79, who came to the United States from the Ukraine at age 14 after World War II and volunteers at the museum, said expats have been walking in off the street to talk.

"People come in just to



A passerby stops to look at the memorial outside of the Ukrainian American Youth Association in the East Village. / EMILY JOHNSON, METRO

talk to another Ukrainian," she said.

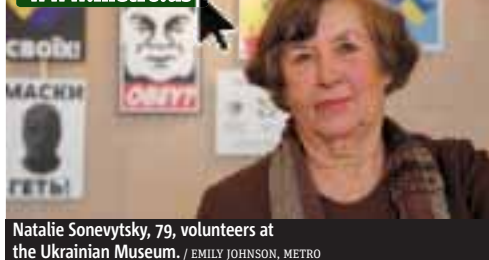
Some of the most productive discourse in the city's Ukrainian community is taking place digitally, as tech-savvy Ukrainians mobilize online.

Mariya Soroka, who immigrated to the United States 10 years ago when she was 15, is a founder of the online activist group Razom for Ukraine, which translates to "Together for Ukraine."

What began as an informal gathering in December, after the protests started, has evolved into a nonprofit run by more than a hundred volunteers.

"In three months we ac-

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www.metro.us



Natalie Sonevsky, 79, volunteers at the Ukrainian Museum. / EMILY JOHNSON, METRO

True colors

"We kept saying, wait until the Olympiad ends, Putin will show his true horns then. And that prophecy unfortunately came true."

Natalie Sonevsky

complished so much, just being inspired by people in Ukraine," said Soroka, who participated in the early Kiev protests.

Razom for Ukraine has helped organize protests like the one on Sunday that saw thousands march from Bryant Park to the Russian consulate on 91st Street.

Buses will ferry protesters from the East Village to Washington, D.C., today for an anti-Putin demonstration that's set to take place across from the White House.

EMILY JOHNSON
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City drops suit against racial profiling law

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced on Wednesday that the city would abandon its lawsuit against a controversial law that expand the city's anti-profiling laws.

The case was a leftover from former Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who along with police unions sued to stop the bill due to concerns that it would muddle the courts by allowing plaintiffs to sue individual officers.

"There is absolutely no contradiction in protecting the public safety of New Yorkers and respecting their civil liberties," de Blasio said.

The law, passed by the City Council in August, was a part of the Community Safety Act. It was drafted as a response to what advocates said was rampant abuse of the New York Police Department's stop-and-frisk policy that unfairly targeted black

Stop-and-frisk drama

- U.S. District Court Judge Shira Scheindlin ruled last year that the NYPD inadvertently racially profiled blacks and Latinos through stop-and-frisk.
- She appointed an independent monitor to oversee reforms for what attorneys argue would be five years.

and Latino men. It also expanded protections against profiling based on gender, sexual orientation and citizenship.

The profiling law itself allows New Yorkers to seek "injunctive or declaratory" but not financial relief from the NYPD in state court. The previous ban on profiling only allowed lawsuits on a federal level.

While it's unclear if the police unions will con-

tinue the lawsuit without the city, Capital New York reported that their leaders are willing put a second suit on the table during contract negotiations with the de Blasio administration.

In January, Mayor Bill de Blasio also announced he would drop the city's suit against a judge's order to bring stop-and-frisk related reforms to the Police Department this year. **CHESTER JESUS SORIA**

Upper Manhattan

Motorcyclist paralyzed in biker gang incident speaks

A motorcyclist who was paralyzed when an SUV ran over his bike on the West Side Highway last fall said in a television interview Wednesday that he doesn't hold a grudge against the driver.

"I don't blame him,"

biker Edwin Mieses told NBC's "Today" show.

Fellow bikers surrounded Alexian Lien's SUV last fall after the vehicle and a motorcycle bumped. Lien, who was traveling with his family, accelerated through the cyclists, striking Mieses.

Lien's wife said that the couple fled what they believed to be a life-threatening situation.

REUTERS

Transportation

Uber app gives heads up on price drops

The app-powered car service Uber announced on Tuesday it would begin offering a new feature to help quell complaints about its controversial surge pricing.

Uber users can now get notifications every time that the service drops surge pricing near

them within 30 minutes.

The company drew heat last year when it unveiled its surge pricing model, wherein users who request the service during high demand periods or bad weather are charged steeper prices, sometimes as high as seven times a normal fare.

The feature is available for iPhone, with Android phone capability soon to come.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Chinatown fish may put you at risk for skin infection

Live or raw. The Health Department tracked the cases to Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens.

CHESTER SORIA
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chester.soria@metro.us



The Health Department has identified 30 cases of the infection. / MILES DIXON, METRO

An outbreak of a rare skin infection has the New York City Health Department concerned about New Yorkers handling live and raw fish in the city's Chinatowns.

The Health Department said it tracked the cases through reports from doctors serving Chinese communities around the city. Every victim confirmed they handled

live or raw seafood in the Manhattan, Brooklyn or Queens Chinatowns.

The infection cannot be transferred between people, nor can it be caught by eating seafood with the bacteria, but the agency recommends using waterproof gloves if handling either live or raw seafood.

The city so far identified 30 cases of the infec-

tion, which is caused by bacteria called Mycobacterium marinum and transferred through breaks in the skin. Symptoms include red, tender lumps or swelling under the skin of the hands or arms that's sometimes accompanied by pain.

The infection can be treated only with specific antibiotics soon after infection, the city warned,

and it requires professional medical attention.

"Some people who were infected have been treated with traditional Chinese medicine or types of antibiotics that cannot cure the infection," the Health Department wrote in its alert. "If the infection isn't treated correctly, it can worsen over weeks or months and may require surgery."

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GOP. Astorino unveils plan to run against Cuomo for governor

Rob Astorino, a Republican county executive, launched a bid on Wednesday to challenge New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, promising to make the state more affordable, to open more charter schools and to pave the way for natural gas fracking.

"I'm tired of listening to the fairy tale that everything is just great when it's just the opposite," Astorino said in a video posted to his campaign website.

Ed Cox, the state's Re-

publican leader, released a statement of support that said "Goliath, meet David."

A February Quinnipiac poll found that New York voters favor Cuomo 58 percent to 24 percent over Astorino in a hypothetical match-up.

Astorino has sounded many of the themes central to Cuomo's message: lowering taxes and making the state more competitive, as well as working with members of the opposing party. **REUTERS**

Long shot

Lee Miringoff, who heads the Marist Poll, called Astorino's candidacy a "tall order."

- "The to-do list is very long," Miringoff said. "He needs to raise money, he has low name recognition, he's trailing."



Rob Astorino
ROB ASTORINO, FACEBOOK



New Yorkers celebrate start of Lent

Rev. Charlene Han Powell administers ashes to a passing New Yorker on Fifth Avenue in Midtown Manhattan. Rev. Powell and two other pastors from Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church offered ashes on Wednesday to commemorate Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent, the 40-day period that culminates on Easter Sunday. / VASHEENA DOUGHTY

Underground

Woman groped inside Bronx subway

Police are searching for a man they say groped a 25-year-old woman inside a Bronx subway station.

The suspect grabbed the woman's buttocks as she was standing on the northbound B/D platform at the 170th Street station just before midnight on Feb. 24.

They both boarded a train, and the victim took a photo of the suspect with her cellphone, police said. The man then fled.

Police say the suspect is described as in his 30s, about 5-foot-6 and 160 pounds. He was last seen wearing a green hoodie and light blue jeans.

Anyone with information in regards to this incident is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477).

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regret is that I didn't
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Nataliya L., USA Vein Clinics Patient

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NEWS 8



Quoted

"Obviously we want to provide NATO's leaders with options that stabilize and not escalate tensions in the Ukraine."

Gen. Martin Dempsey,
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

A U.S. defense official said the Pentagon, in a response to a request from Baltic allies, aimed to provide additional aircraft during the current rotation. / GETTY IMAGES

Pentagon boosts training, NATO air policing amid the Ukraine-Russia crisis

International outcry. Ukraine says Russia has occupied Crimea, where its Black Sea fleet is based.

The U.S. military said on Wednesday it will bolster training with Poland's air force and provide more U.S. aircraft to a NATO air policing mission in the Baltics, as it eyes ways to reassure allies without escalating the Ukraine crisis.

The United States has showed no interest in pursuing military options following the Russian intervention in Crimea. The biggest step the Pentagon had taken so far was to cut off military exchanges with Russia on Monday.

Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Senate hearing he had directed the U.S. military's European Command to "consult and plan

within the construct of the North Atlantic Council" but stressed the intent was to stabilize the situation.

Dempsey said he spoke with his Russian counterpart on Wednesday and urged restraint in the days ahead "in order to preserve room for a diplomatic solution."

Russia and the West are locked in the most serious battle since the end of the Cold War for influence in Ukraine, a former Soviet republic with historic ties to Moscow that is a major commodities exporter and strategic link between East and West.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, who aimed to speak with Ukraine's defense minister later on Wednesday, said the United States would boost training with Poland's air force. A U.S. defense official said there are about 10 U.S. Air Force personnel in Poland to support rotations of U.S. aircraft for training.

REUTERS

Rare show of support from GOP

Lawmakers consider vote on aid package

Republican leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives said on Wednesday they would work with the White House to address the crisis in Ukraine and vote on legislation of-

fering financial aid soon.

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor said the Republican-led House will consider a \$1 billion loan guarantee package for Ukraine and look at measures to "put significant pressure on Russia to stop the flagrant aggression to its neighbor in Ukraine." **REUTERS**

Discussions

Kerry says dignitaries agreed to continue talks

Foreign ministers from Ukraine, Russia and Western nations agreed on Wednesday to continue discussions on how to stabilize Ukraine and presented a number

of ideas for how to reach that goal, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said.

"We agreed to continue intense discussions in the coming days with Russia, with Ukraine, in order to see how we can help normalize the situation, stabilize it, and overcome the crisis," Kerry told reporters.

REUTERS

Online sales

Facebook, Instagram crack down on gun sales

Facebook and its photo sharing subsidiary, Instagram, will delete posts offering to buy or sell

guns without background checks, Facebook announced on Wednesday.

In an effort to curb what gun control advocates say is the increasing use of the social networks to circumvent checks and controls on firearms sales, Facebook and Instagram



GUNS FOR SALE ON SOCIAL MEDIA / COLOURBOX

will also bar users under 18 from viewing gun offers that are posted.

"We will not permit people to post offers to sell regulated items that indicate a willingness to evade or help others evade the law," Facebook said. **REUTERS**



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Hearing on IRS scandal ends in shouting match

Turmoil. Dems accused the GOP of a one-sided investigation into the so-called Tea Party targeting scandal.

A brief congressional hearing ended in shouting and confusion on Wednesday after a former U.S. Internal Revenue Service official refused to answer questions about a 10-month-old controversy involving IRS scrutiny of conservative political groups.

Lois Lerner, who was at the center of last year's so-called Tea Party targeting

scandal, declined to answer questions from Darrell Issa, the Republican chairman of the House of Representatives Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

Accusing Republicans of running a one-sided investigation, Rep. Elijah Cummings, the panel's top democrat, shouted after his microphone was turned off: "It is absolutely un-American!" Other committee Democrats shouted "shame" as Issa left the hearing room.

Lerner retired from the IRS in September. She had refused to answer questions from Issa once before, at a hearing in May 2013, where she invoked her constitutional right not

to testify.

That was days after she issued a public apology, in answer to a planted question from the audience at a legal conference, in which she said the IRS had done "inappropriate" targeting of political groups with the words "Tea Party" in their names. **REUTERS**

By the numbers

15

Issa, who has relentlessly pursued the tax agency over the controversy for months, dismissed Lerner and gaveled the hearing to a close after just 15 minutes, cutting off remarks from Democratic Rep. Elijah Cummings.



Poll shows Christie's Sandy response image hit by Bridgegate controversy

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, whose popularity with voters in his home state has already taken a hit over a traffic jam scandal, has also lost some of the goodwill he earned for his response to superstorm Sandy in 2012, according to a new poll. In January, accusations surfaced that Christie's aides had tied storm assistance to a political favor. Those accusations, along with the traffic jam scandal, have taken a toll on state residents' impression of Christie's handling of the devastating storm, with just 54 percent of New Jersey voters now saying they approved of his efforts after Sandy. **REUTERS** / GETTY IMAGES

National debate

Western GOP urges appeals court to back gay marriage

Republicans from western states are urging a U.S. appeals court to

rule state bans on gay marriage unconstitutional, citing shifts in the cultural standpoints of some conservatives in a broad national debate.

Former U.S. senators Alan Simpson of Wyoming and Nancy

Kassebaum of Kansas were among some 20 Republicans who signed a brief filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit in Denver. The group cited constitutional guarantees of equal protection. **REUTERS**



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Witness: Pistorius asked friend to 'take blame' for restaurant gunshot

Separate incident.

He is also accused of putting a bullet through the sun roof of a former girlfriend's car.

"Blade Runner" Oscar Pistorius told a friend to take the blame for him accidentally firing a pistol under the table in a packed Johannesburg restaurant in January 2013, a month before he allegedly killed his girlfriend, those at his murder trial heard on Wednesday.

Testifying at the trial of the South African Olympic and Paralympic track star, professional boxer Kevin Lerena described how he, Pistorius and two others had been having dinner at Tashas restaurant when the gun went off.

The charge of firing a gun in a public place is part of prosecution attempts to portray the 27-year-old athlete, who allegedly shot dead model Reeva Steenkamp on Feb. 14 last year, as a firearms-obsessed hot-head.

Pistorius denies murdering Steenkamp, saying he fired four rounds from a 9 millimeter pistol through a locked bathroom door at his luxury Pretoria home after mis-

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www.metro.us



Former Olympian Oscar Pistorius looks on during the third day of his trial at the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria on Wednesday. / GETTY IMAGES

taking her for an intruder.

Lerena, who goes by the ring name "The KO Kid," said one of the group at the table in Tashas, Darren Fresco, passed his pistol under the table to Pistorius during the lunch, telling him there was "one up," indicating a round was in the chamber.

"A shot went off. Then there was just complete silence," Lerena said. "I looked down at the floor and exactly where I looked down, where my foot was, there was a hole in the floor."

"I had a little graze on my toe, but I wasn't hurt," he added.

Quoted

"Please take the blame for me — there's too much media hype around me. ... Take the blame, because this can be big."

Lerena
Quoted Pistorius as saying

Restaurant owner Jason Loupis told the court 220 diners had been present at the time. A child was sitting at the table next to Pistorius, his wife Maria added in her testimony.

Pistorius immediately apologized to his friends and checked they had not been hurt, but then turned to Fresco and asked him to take responsibility, Lerena said.

When the restaurant owners came up to investigate, Fresco told them the gun had fallen out of the pocket of his tracksuit trousers.

"I said to him, 'What's the first rule of owning a gun? Safety first?'" Maria Loupis said. "He said, 'Yes' and I hit him over the head."

Pistorius paid the bill and the group left, she added. **REUTERS**

Longevity

World's oldest person 'kind of' happy to be 116

Misao Okawa, a Japanese woman believed to be the world's oldest person, turned 116 on Wednesday and celebrated by tucking into a white cake decorated with strawberries and candles.

She credits a healthy appetite and getting plenty of rest for her longevity.

Okawa was born in 1898 — the year that the United States annexed

the Hawaiian islands, a new drink named Pepsi-Cola was launched and the USS Maine exploded in Havana harbor.

Accepting bouquets from well-wishers at a small party in the nursing home where she lives in the western city of Osaka, Okawa sat by the cake, decorated with "116" in candles, and later pronounced it as "delicious."

Asked if she was happy to have lived so long, she replied, according to the Asahi Shimbun daily, "Kind of." **REUTERS**

Centerfold. Italian publisher launches Pope fan magazine

An Italian publisher on Wednesday launched a fan magazine devoted exclusively to Pope Francis — including a centerfold — just as the pope said he did not want to be seen as a superstar.

Il Mio Papa (My Pope), hit the newsstands with a 69-page first edition full of photos of the pope, his life story, his appeals for peace and articles about what people think of him.



POPE FRANCIS
GETTY IMAGES

It includes a pull-out centerfold with a different picture of the smiling pope and one of his quotes on each side. **REUTERS**

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CULTURE



Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, John Cusack is entertained at least, Mindy Kaling is just looking for an excuse, Tom Arnold is regretting his lunch choices and Katy Perry is practically a marine biologist.

@johncusack: I love twitter when I randomly follow people and wake up to see berserk things on my feed

@mindykaling: I have the best vacation outfits, now someone take me on vacation!

@TomArnold: If you eat a whole bag of potato chips, even gluten-free, you basically lose a day of your life. Maybe more. I'll let you know tomorrow.

@katyperry: If cuttlefish really cuddle call me a mermaid and drop me in a tank of them pls.

Travolta is over Adele Dazeem



Jorn Tromlto is working on letting it go.

John Travolta is sorry for messing up Idina Menzel's name at the Oscars on Sunday, where he introduced her as "Adele Dazeem."

Also, though, he's over it. "I've been beating myself up all day," Travolta said in a statement, according to People. "Then I thought, 'What would Idina Menzel say?' She'd say, 'Let it go, let it go!'" [Ed note: Good luck with that.]

Indeed, it seems like

the "Frozen" star doesn't hold a grudge — she gave Travolta a hug after her performance of "Let It Go."

The Internet, on the other hand, has no plans to stop enjoying Travolta's flub anytime soon. Not only did an Adele Dazeem Twitter account instantly spring into existence, but you can now Travoltify your name (just call me Melissa Thozomas, writer for Marco). **MELINDA TAUB**

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON

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ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Watch out for that sword!

We're sad to say that shortly after this photo was taken, an unsuspecting Eva Green died from injuries sustained from having a giant knife cut through her head by a very angry (yet very buff) Greek warrior. (Just kidding — she was just posing in front of a terrible spot while at the premiere of her new film "300: Rise of an Empire" on Tuesday in Hollywood.) Next time, the publicist should put her somewhere where it doesn't look like a giant knife is going directly into her skull. A wall, perhaps?

Conan O'Brien will host MTV's 2014 Movie Awards

He may have lost "The Tonight Show," but at least a certain redhead can find comfort in the arms of MTV. Conan O'Brien will host the 2014 MTV Movie Awards next month in Los Angeles, he announced during "Conan" on Tuesday night.

"After eight years of intense negotiations, I am honored to announce I am hosting MTV's second-most prestigious awards show," he joked.

The show will take place April 13 at the Nokia Theater in Los Angeles.



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FILMMAGIC

The star of Wes Anderson films is Wes Anderson. But what does that mean for the actors — the many acclaimed, terrific actors — who regularly act for him? The latest addition to the fold is Saoirse Ronan. In "The Grand Budapest Hotel," the teenage Oscar nominee (for "Atonement") handles the small but vital role of a bakery girl in a fictitious mid-European nation who gets caught up in zany but dangerous intrigue with a bellboy (Tony Revolori) and a concierge (Ralph Fiennes).

In person, Wes Anderson seems unexpectedly confident.

He's one of those guys who seems so shy, but he's very talkative and he's very relaxed. He's very classy, he's very elegant. He's a European American. A lot of time [while filming] he won't look at the monitor. If you're doing a dialogue scene, he'll sit next to the camera and watch the scene live. Which I really liked, I thought that was lovely.

He probably didn't have to twist your arm to accept the role.

He didn't have to persuade me to do it. "Yes, Wes Anderson, of course I'll do your film. Don't be ridiculous." I kept thanking him all the time for letting me be in the film.

How clear is the character on the page? How much can you bring to her yourself?

I just needed to follow his lead, really. You can't make any of his characters dull, because they're written so colorfully. He's already decided who they're going to be, and trusts you to bring that to life. I just needed to do what Wes asked, really. And I did. I think.

As an actor, do you like that?

I liked having that much clarity given to me. I liked knowing exactly what I had to do. There's a certain amount of control and energy you need to put into every single one of the takes. I suppose there is a bit of collaboration, but he knows what he wants. He doesn't ram it down your throat — he's just clear on what he wants. If you want to try something, he'll do it. But usually his way works better. [Laughs]



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SAOIRSE RONAN

The Oscar nominee jumped at the chance to work with director Wes Anderson.

A 'GRAND' OLD TIME

Just desserts

Beats working

Were there any other challenges? Your character does work in a pastry shop.

I had a little icing gun thing, and the [baker] said, "Yes, you just take this and you squirt it on and you do that." And of

course every single one of [hers] was perfect. And I thought, "Oh, I can do that." I went to do it and it was just [motions that it was a mess]. It was the most difficult thing I've ever done on a film set. The stuff she made was beautiful. It was nice to eat it after.

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Best Actor

Matthew McConaughey

The Best Actor winner has completed his career transformation after two years of noteworthy work in small, interesting independent films, so now obviously he can get back to bigger Hollywood

fare. He'll next be seen in Christopher Nolan's massive, top-secret space film "Interstellar," co-starring Anne Hathaway and Jessica Chastain, due out in November. Meanwhile, his critically acclaimed run on TV's "True Detective" wraps up on HBO this weekend.



Now what?

The Oscars are over, meaning we can start worrying about what comes next for its stars.

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Best Actress

Cate Blanchett

Blanchett will be seen in the final installment of the "Hobbit" trilogy, reprising her "Lord of the Rings" role as the elf queen Galadriel. She'll also be heard in "How to Train Your Dragon 2" and seen in a pair of films by Terrence Malick. Next year she will play the evil stepmother in Kenneth Branagh's "Cinderella."



The Host

Ellen DeGeneres

Ellen heads back to her day job hosting "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," but a repeat performance as Oscar host next year is up in the air. While reviews of the show were mixed, with many criticizing the lethargic pacing, the telecast brought in 43.7 million viewers, its highest in 14 years. That's an 8 percent increase over last year.



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Best Director

Alfonso Cuaron

The acclaimed director spent four years bringing "Gravity" to life, so he deserves a bit of a break. Of course, he's already hard at work as a producer on the TV series "Believe," for which he also did a bit of writing and directed the first episode. But we can't wait to see what his next big-screen adventure will be.



Best Supporting Actress

Lupita Nyong'o

The newly minted movie star should be choosing her next moves very carefully, as she now has the clout and acclaim to do some impressive work along the lines of "12 Years a Slave" and less like her tiny supporting role in "Non-Stop," currently in theaters. The savvy newcomer did not sign on to another project before her Oscar win, and hopefully her shrewdness will pay off.

Best Supporting Actor

Jared Leto

Leto's Oscar-winning turn in "Dallas Buyers Club" was his first film role in six years, and we might have to wait that long to see another one, since his immediate plans involve getting back to work with his band, Thirty Seconds to Mars. It must be a nice life when being an Oscar-winning actor is just something you do on the side.



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ADMIT ONE

Metro rounds up what's in cinemas this week.

MATT PRIGGE
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1 'The Grand Budapest Hotel' The latest Wes Anderson joint probably won't win over detractors, but that's their loss. The filmmaker goes so far as to create his own country, where a concierge (Ralph Fiennes) gets involved in some business after banging an octogenarian dowager (Tilda Swinton).

2 '300: Rise of an Empire' Zack Snyder's homophobic yet homoerotic

www.metro.us
Thursday, March 6, 2014

FILMS 16



Tilda Swinton is buried beneath pounds of 80-something-year-old makeup in "The Grand Budapest Hotel." / FOX SEARCHLIGHT

Spartan bloodbath gets a belated sequel, or a rather side-sequel. The less chronicled Battle of Artemisium is the focus this time around, and best of all there's Eva Green as a warrior queen who likes to make out with freshly decapitated heads.

3 'Mr. Peabody & Sherman' Rocky and Bullwinkle don't have the greatest track record when it comes to movies (including the Brendan Fraser-starring "Dudley Do-Right"). But here we go again, with the history-themed dog-and-boy segments transformed into a time travel movie.

4 'Journey to the West: Conquering the Demons' Good news! Martial arts legend Stephen Chow ("Kung Fu Hustle") has a new movie. Less good news! He only

directed it. The effects-happy Chow takes on the Ming Dynasty novel about the battle against demons.

5 'Grand Piano' Elijah Wood plays a master pianist gripped by stage fright whose return after a hiatus is plagued by a killer who says he will murder him if he hits a wrong note. John Cusack co-stars.

6 'The Face of Love' Mourning her dead husband, a woman (Annette Bening) is shocked to meet a man (Ed Harris) who looks just like him. Robin Williams is in there somewhere, too.

7 'Bethlehem' Another film from the Israeli-Palestinian front, this drama centers on the relationship between an Israeli Secret Service officer and his teenage Palestinian informant.

8 'Non-Stop' Charles Bronson was still making "Death Wish" pictures at 73, so Liam Neeson still has another 12 years to make movies like "Non-Stop." Or he could do some prestige films. This time he's an alkie air marshal who finds there's a killer on his latest flight.

9 'Son of God' Lots and lots of people watched the miniseries "The Bible," so hopefully they won't mind shelling out cash to watch the Jesus parts of it, only now with what we're promised is extra footage.

10 'The Lego Movie' If the idea of a movie based on the plastic toy blocks seems inexplicable, at least someone was passionate enough to hire talented "21 Jump Street" guys Phil Lord and Chris Miller to do it.

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Spring trend: Mom jeans

Denim. We round up a selection of the new, unexpected “it” denim.

Sure, we’ve all made fun of them when looking through old photographs from the ‘90s and convinced our parents to throw out a pair (or three), but mom jeans — the high-waisted, slightly tapered-leg denim in lighter, faded

washes — are making a comeback. First seen on fashion insiders and celebrities who trawl the best vintage stores, the trend has found its way into major retailers like Urban Outfitters and Topshop, making it accessible to you.

But we’re not saying to go all old school and style them with a fanny pack and high-top white sneakers. Instead, pair the denim with sexy pumps or laid-back sandals for a fresh take. The higher waistband

will elongate legs and accentuate curves — not to mention do away with any unsightly muffin tops and plumber’s cracks (not cute).

A baby step toward the trend would be retiring your indigo wash skinnies for a lighter shade of blue, also set to be big for spring. And if you’re ready to get on board, here are a few pairs we love.



TINA CHADHA
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Model Laura Love paired her jeans with a feminine blouse and sandals at a party with her pal Gia Coppola. / GETTY IMAGES



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A new day at Louis Vuitton

Nicolas Ghesquiere, long known for his flair for the experimental, kept it somewhat low-key for his debut collection for Louis Vuitton. There wasn't any grand set design or theatrics. Instead, the designer let his clothes take center stage, creating his own unique spin on the season's ubiquitous '60s trend.

The theme surfaced in his above-the-knee, A-line skirts and dresses, feminine blouses with lace-trimmed collars and high-waist skinny pants — all conveying a sense of Parisian chic and sensuality.

The '60s gamine-meets-vixen vibe continued throughout the collection, even during his more futuristic moments such as his slick plunging leather tops that came attached to knit skirts with feathers arranged in artful swirls. This is where his legendary sense of the experimental appeared, and yet the collection as a whole sent a clear message: He's dressing a new woman now, with softer, more commercial looks to prove it.

And since this is, after all, a Louis Vuitton show, the accessories — miniature trunk bags, shiny booties and leather belts tied around the models' waists — drove the point home.

METRO

Fashion Week diary

Follow our editors' diaries as they take you to the front row of Paris Fashion Week. For more coverage, visit www.metro.us and www.modmods.com.



GETTY IMAGES

Spotted. Front row at Paris Fashion Week



RIHANNA, LUPITA NYONG'O
AND ELIZABETH OLSEN AT MIU MIU

GETTY IMAGES

Love in the time of DOMA (and everything after)



Author Liza Monroy, a self-proclaimed lovefool, gleefully admits her appreciation for the romantic comedy genre in her new memoir, "The Marriage Act." While she isn't deluded by fantasy, she insists that every relationship can be distilled into a rom-com. Take her first marriage — to her gay best friend in 2001, just after 9/11 — for example. "With Emir, everything was so absurd, a comedy of errors," she says. Her book details the set pieces of that story, which includes a cast of characters and series of coincidences that can only be described as filmic. Monroy's friend-turned-husband, Emir, is from a conservative Middle Eastern country and his visa is expiring; he has not yet come out to his family. Meanwhile, the pair fear outing themselves to Monroy's mother, a visa chief for the State Department, and endangering Emir's hopes for a green card. Hilarity — like their Vegas nuptials officiated by an Elvis impersonator — and anxiety — like dodging questions about circumcision at the INS — ensue.

Spoiler alert: As with most rom-coms, their narrative has a happy ending. More than a decade later, Emir remains legally in the U.S., and both of them have found the kind of life partners they had wished for in their early twenties. Moreover, DOMA, the federal law that defined marriage as a union solely between

partners of the opposite sex, was struck down last June, meaning that nowadays no one will need to make the same sacrifice that Monroy did for her friend. Although no longer legally bound to Emir, she still loves him, in a way that transcends traditional, silver-screen notions of the word. "We are together forever because our friendship — our sibling-hood — continues," she says.

And while she says everything is different from one relationship to the next, and that her unconventional partnership with Emir wasn't a tutorial for married life, the newlywed has learned over time how to fall in love for real — that is, with oneself first. She offers her advice:

Use your judgment

"Ultimately, when you find the right person, you feel it. You wouldn't even think about needing advice or asking for outside input. Not that you're fully in bliss 24 hours a day, but after a conflict, you never think, 'Maybe I shouldn't be in this relationship.' You know it's not going to work out the minute you bad-mouth your partner to your friends. That's a red flag."

Be ready

"Get to a place in your life where you're completely



"No relationship is perfect, but [my marriage to Jason] feels like the right ending, where my story will no longer be that dramatic and interesting anymore," laughs Monroy. "It'll be day-to-day life: babies and grocery shopping and cooking and going to classes." /MATT EDGE

Present day

In her shoes

Although the nation's laws and attitudes toward the LGBTQ community are shifting (slowly) in a more tolerant direction, Monroy says if she needed to ensure Emir's security in the U.S., she would do it all over again. And, as she says in "The Marriage Act," one of her criteria for a partner is one who respects her decision to have married Emir.

So how did her new husband, Jason, react

when she told him? Exactly as you'd hope: He said he would have done the same thing for his friend, too. She adds that it was the ultimate litmus test, confirming that he was the right guy for her. "He and Emir get along really well," she beams. "They're similar in that they're extroverted, thoughtful, witty people, so they really hit it off."



GINA ANGELOTTI
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fine on your own, so that you don't have expectations of a partner. Not that you shouldn't expect anything [in a relationship], but realize that you don't need someone to do things for you or make you feel validated. I finally decided I didn't need a relationship. If a guy showed up who fit into [my life], great; if not, I'm just fine on my own path. When he appeared, it was a nice bonus and surprise."

Let go

"You can't control what another person thinks, does, feels — and shouldn't try to. That's why the best relationships are effortless, because you just let each other be, to grow naturally together instead of growing apart. Relinquishing control is an important clue that a relationship will last."

Be independent

"[Marriage] makes you more independent because you are joining forces with somebody; you always have a teammate. Knowing that someone has your back liberates you to take risks, pursue dreams and really just be who you are. If someone keeps you from doing the things you want, makes you claustrophobic or is possessive, then they're the wrong person for you."

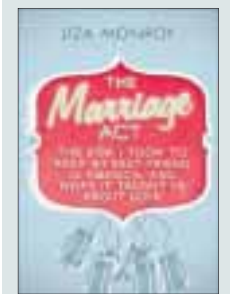
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Why keeping records, like her INS papers, can be healthy for couples

"I was a compulsive documentarian even before Emir, so it was natural to keep everything. It probably came from being a writer, that I started writing diaries when I was a teenager. I like the way objects trigger memories, to have something to remind you of your love [for someone] and to make you laugh. Laughter is the No. 1 most important thing to share."

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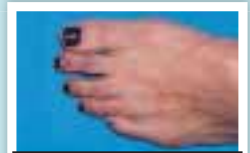


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Before



After

"After 7 years, I can finally wear heels again" - C. Stephen

Size matters (well, height anyway)

Short and tall. One study finds that of all the things that people pay attention to, none is as big a deal as height.

If you always wondered why sports players got all the girls in school, it was probably just because they were taller. Researchers from the University of North Texas and Rice University have established that height plays a large role in the romantic choices of both genders. UNT's Dr. George Yancey explains.

I suppose this is mainly about protection?

Yes, that was true for shorter women, who gave protection and security as the main reasons for looking for tall men. We don't have percentages but this was a very definite pattern. Tall men reciprocated and wanted to be the protector. Taller women were hardly ever interested in protection.

Was height more important to the study participants than a warm heart and dashing smile? Height was very important, far more than other physical aspects such as hair or eye color. In many cases, they instigated the height point without being prompted.

So, do you think women believe tall men have



Q&A

Where do you believe the importance put on height comes from? We think a lot is social. In an average heterosexual couple, our society expects men to be powerful. But you can train yourself to like other types. We spoke to couples where the woman was taller. Height becomes less of an issue [as people grow older.]

This study says that straight women want to look up to their guys. COLOURBOX

superpowers? I'm a tall person and don't know how good I am at protection. Some women wanted tall guys to look smaller themselves, some said they wanted to look up into

a guy's eyes. There's not much to do with character. [Editor's note: or superpowers.]

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Cocktail of the week

French 75

Mardi Gras may be over, but we're still enjoying this classic sipper.

- 25 ml No. 3 gin
- 25 ml freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 10 ml Monin Gomme syrup
- Berry's United Kingdom Cuvee, Grand Cru, Mailly (champagne)
- 1 grignotine cherry or lemon

Mix the gin, lemon juice and syrup in a cocktail shaker. Pour the contents into a champagne flute and top up with champagne. Add a grignotine cherry or peel of lemon.

Restaurant Week menus you still have time to try



Roasted Poussin Yassa is on the menu at The Cecil. / LAYLAH AMATULLAH BARRAYN

Ending Friday

The details

Enjoy a three-course lunch for \$25 or a three-course dinner for \$38. Get the full list of participating restaurants at www.nycgo.com/restaurantweek.

See more at
www.metro.us



Smoked sausage with pimento cheese is served at Blue Smoke BPC. / MELISSA HOM

Bite. Here's why you should hit these places while you still can.

Abboccato

**136 W. 55th St.,
212-265-4000**

Because we've seen what new chef David Arias can do with pasta, and it'll blow your mind.

**Blue Smoke
Battery Park City**

**255 Vesey St.,
212-889-2005**

Butter Midtown

**70 W. 45th St.,
212-253-2828**

Because you can watch chef Alex Guarnaschelli on "Chopped" (more on that below), or catch her in the flesh at the trendy outpost's new location.

The Cecil

**210 W. 118th St.,
212-866-1262**

Because you've already been to the Flatiron location; now you've got to try Jeffrey Held's take on barbecue.

Because Chef JJ Johnson is redefining African cuisine in Harlem.

The General

199 Bowery, 212-271-7101

Because your best chance of spotting a celeb in the city just might be at "Top Chef" alum Hung Huynh's enticing Asian fusion eatery.

Kristalbelli

**8 W. 36th St.,
212-290-2211**

Because this isn't your neighborhood deli's bibimbap.

Le Cirque

**151 E. 58th St.,
212-644-0202**

Because when else can you afford dinner at Le Cirque?

Loi

**208 W. 70th St.,
212-875-8600**

Because Greece's most famous chef, Maria Loi, will take care of you as if you were her own kin. Order the pastitsio, a Greek take on lasagna.

Stella 34

**Macy's Herald Square,
151 W. 34th St.,
212-967-9251**

Because the sprawling views of Herald Square are as divine as Jarrett Appell's pizza. Dining here will transform your typical Macy's experience.

Telepan

**72 W. 69th St.,
212-580-4300**

Because Bill Telepan is pretty much the nicest chef in the biz, and his food isn't that bad either.

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More restaurant suggestions

**Where the
'Chopped' stars
eat in NYC**

When the judges of Food Network's new "Chopped Tournament of Stars" aren't dining at their own eateries, these are the places they're hitting up.

Geoffrey Zakarian

"My favorite restaurant in

New York is Balthazar. I usually order Le Balthazar Plateaux Fruits de Mer; it's the largest seafood tower that they have to offer."

Marc Murphy

"When I'm in the Village, my favorite restaurant to go to is Kesté. It's a great Neapolitan pizza place. I love to get the sausage pizza or whatever the special of the day is!"

**Alex
Guarnaschelli**

"I have so many favorites, it's hard to choose just one. I really enjoy the veal meatballs at Hearth. The brussels sprouts tacos at Empellon Cocina are delicious, and another one of my go-to restaurants is La Grenouille. I always order the asparagus appetizer and grand Marnier soufflé whenever I'm there."

METRO/ME



Geoffrey Zakarian, Alex Guarnaschelli, Marc Murphy and Ted Allen star in "Chopped Tournament of Stars," premiering Sunday at 9 p.m. on Food Network. / COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK

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Upload your own events!

Have an upcoming event that you want to let Metro readers know about? Send an email to events@metro.us and we'll get it on our new listings website.

TALKS

Competitive Erotic Fan Fiction

Friday, 8 p.m.
Union Hall
702 Union St., Park Slope
\$10, 718-638-4400
www.unionhallnyc.com
Hope these comics have been seexercising, 'cause they're going to be telling some erotic tales partially based on audience suggestions. We don't know what the winner gets but we do hope it's a really cool trophy that depicts some kind of doggy-style position or a phallic symbol.

Baseball as Good Medicine

Tonight, 7
Bergino Baseball Clubhouse
67 E. 11th St.
\$25-\$100, 212-226-7150
www.bergino.com
While Bon Jovi clearly had a yearning for "Bad Medicine" back in the '80s, we no longer live in a time when mullets, perms and hair metal rule the roost. Relax in the clubhouse bleachers with a beer while a variety of sportswriters, from sportswriters to neurologists, tell five-minute baseball stories to a panel of judges. All proceeds benefit the Photo ID Foundation, which provides help for children and young adults suffering from life-threatening illnesses. Every ticket bought is a home run.

SPORTS

FDNY Boxing vs. Garda Boxing Club

Tonight, 7
Webster Hall, 125 E. 11th St.
\$25-\$50, 917-282-8727
www.websterhall.com
Get in the St. Patty's spirit as Dublin's fighting Irish of the Garda Boxing Team (members of its National Police Force) go glove to glove with the FDNY's

FOOD AND DRINK

Coffee Fest

Friday-March 9, 7 a.m.; Jacob Javits Center, 655 W. 34th St.; \$30, 425-295-3300; www.coffeefest.com
Coffee Fest celebrates its 70th show with a packed house of exhibitors and a chance to see the latte art world championship, where 60 competitors will face off to see who makes the best mug doodles. Also see the best espresso competition and the best coffee house competition, attend educational seminars about coffee and tea, then taste a lot of joe. It's the biggest caffeine buzz under one roof!



POST YOUR LISTING!

WWW.METRO.US/NEWYORK/EVENTS

Catch a buzz this weekend at the Jacob Javits Center. / COLOURBOX

Bravest Boxing Team in an amateur boxing contest for the Transatlantic Championship — currently held by, duh, the FDNY. Proceeds are donated to Building Homes for Heroes.

ART

The Armory Show 2014

Thursday-March 9, noon
Piers 92 & 94
711 12th Ave.
\$40-\$75, 646-616-7434
www.thearmoryshow.com
The Armory Show is back, celebrating some of the most important artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. Showcasing works that represent a different neighborhood each day with panels, cultural events, performances and more, the weeklong arts celebration combines our own cultures with those of collectors and art enthusiasts from around the world. Different programs will focus on different aspects of the art world as well as different art from around the globe.

The Whitney Houston Biennial: I'm Every Woman

March 9, 4 p.m.
20 Jay St., Suite 207, Brooklyn Free, www.whitneyhoustonbiennial.com
Highlighting the works of female artists in New York, curator Christine Finley hosts 75 artists from various backgrounds in a gallery that is sure to make you wanna dance with somebody.

Taking its name from the legendary singer as well as the Whitney Biennial, the show aims to bring together the many voices of pioneering artists in the community. Artists include Swoon, Guerrilla Girls, Linda Montano and many more.

FOOD AND DRINK

Taste of Greenwich House

March 10, 7:30 p.m.
Metropolitan Pavilion
125 W. 18th St.
\$150-\$350, 212-463-0200
www.greenwichhouse.org
Chow down on some of the best food from more than 30 restaurants during Greenwich House's annual benefit to support its 10 social service and arts programs. Famous food critic and longtime Greenwich Village resident Mimi Sheraton will be the honorary chair, and participating restaurants include Hundred Acres, BLT Bar & Grill, Casa Nonna and more.

PARTY

Gypsy House

Saturday, 10 p.m.
West Soho Warehouse
545 Greenwich St., \$10
www.guineapiggroupp.com
Hidden out of sight from the busy NYC streets is a hideout where the Gypsies come out to throw the wildest late-night parties. A night of burlesque, absinthe, Balkan electronica and more await you in this secret loft

party where fortunes are told and hangovers are made.

FLOWERS

Orchid Evenings

Saturday-April 19 (every Saturday), 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.
The New York Botanical Garden
2900 Southern Blvd., The Bronx
\$30, 718-817-8700
www.nybg.org
Check out the array of exotic orchids while sipping on a complimentary cocktail and bopping your head to the sounds of a live DJ. Each Saturday features a different cocktail, one of three DJs and what's sure to be a romantic evening. Pregame at the champagne pre-party at Shop in the Garden on select nights, and receive special dinner offers to some of Arthur Avenue's best spots.

FILM

The Iron Mule

March 9, 7:30 p.m.
Symphony Space
2537 Broadway
\$12, 212-864-5400
www.symphonyspace.org
It's that time of the month again for the Iron Mule to break out the funniest short films from around the globe and present them all in one sitting. Guest judge Jason Little will help to select the winner. Will it be "Lez Be Honest"? "Blind Date"? "I'm 23 and There's a F—ing Monster Under My Bed"? Based on names alone we'd be pleased with any of those as winners.

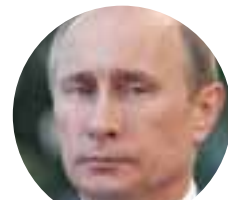
JAY HONSTETTER

TALKS

Intelligence Squared US Debates: 'Russia is a Marginal Power'

March 12, 6:45 p.m.; Kaufman Center, 129 W. 67th St.; \$40; 646-537-4000; www.intelligencesquaredus.org

Is the United States' relationship with Russia worrisome? Since the end of the Cold War, East-West tensions have seemed to simmer down, but as of late countries like Russia have been taking a stand on issues the U.S. doesn't see eye-to-eye with them on. Catch this debate as four smarty-pants discuss their take on the subject.



IS THIS THE FACE OF A MAN YOU CAN TRUST? / GETTY IMAGES

FOOD AND DRINK

Seventh Annual Winter Stinky Cheese Festival

Friday-March 14; various locations in Manhattan; www.tourdefrancnyc.com

Join nine of NYC's French restaurants as they honor every foodie's favorite: the delicious, odorific, stinky cheese! This is nothing to stick your nose up at, as each establishment, including Marseille, Café D'Alsace, Le Monde, L'Express and more, will offer specialty menus during their lunch and dinner services. Taste Raclette, Limburger, Roquefort and more, plus beer and wine.



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Horoscope

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Opportunity is within reach. A partnership could prove to be beneficial. Be aware of your colleagues' ideas and intentions.

Aries | March 21-April 20. Be on the alert for valuable financial information. There is a possibility of advancement, or perhaps a new job, if you are able to utilize a choice tip.

Taurus | April 21-May 21. You will face opposition if you are outspoken. There is nothing to be gained by antagonizing everyone around you.

Gemini | May 22-June 20. Your plans will be given a boost from those you have helped in the past. Your generosity will be proof that you deserve rewards.

Cancer | June 21-July 22. A partnership will flourish if given the chance. If you share your intentions, you will get the response you need to move forward.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Someone may be jealous of your achievements. Don't be influenced by the negative comments. You will get rewarding results if you continue on your path.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. There is much to be gained through travel. As your knowledge increases, more opportunities will become available.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You'll be overwhelmed with responsibilities. Don't allow self-doubt to prevent you from improving your prospects.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. It's a good day for you to deal with a disagreeable personal situation. You cannot protect someone's feelings. Honesty will be in your best interest.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. A promotion is within your reach. Your hard work will open the door to new job possibilities.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Career and family commitments will be detrimental to your mental health. Take in some lighthearted entertainment.

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. There is no good reason to get involved in someone else's argument. Regardless of the circumstances, refuse to take sides.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Letters

Pushing for paradigm shift

For all subway commuters: If you're sitting down on the train, let EVERYONE else who's been standing up get off the train before you stand up and get in their way. It's the least people can do as a common courtesy to the majority who have to stand up most days. **STEVE HARDING, VIA EMAIL**

Why Ukraine matters

The events in Ukraine matter to the U.S. — and here's why: Ukraine was a part of the old Soviet Union and gained independence when it disintegrated. At

the time, Ukraine had about 1,800 nuclear weapons, making it the third-largest nuclear power in the world. Russia did not like its neighbor having nuclear weapons, so in 1994 an agreement called the Budapest Memorandum was reached between Ukraine, Russia, the U.S. and the U.K. It required Ukraine to give all of its nuclear weapons to Russia in return for an agreement never to invade Ukraine again. Now it appears as if Putin is unilaterally abrogating this by invading Ukraine. What will Obama do as respects the U.S. security assurance to Ukraine?

RON SHELTON, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

		3					9	6
			7	2				
9	5				8	4	1	
5		1	8				4	
		4				2		
	9				4	6		8
	1	9	6				3	4
				4	5			
4	7					8		

					7	5		
			5				7	
	8		9					2
4			1	7		2	6	9
	2	6				1	3	
7	9	1		3	6			5
1					9		5	
	6				4			
		3	6					

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

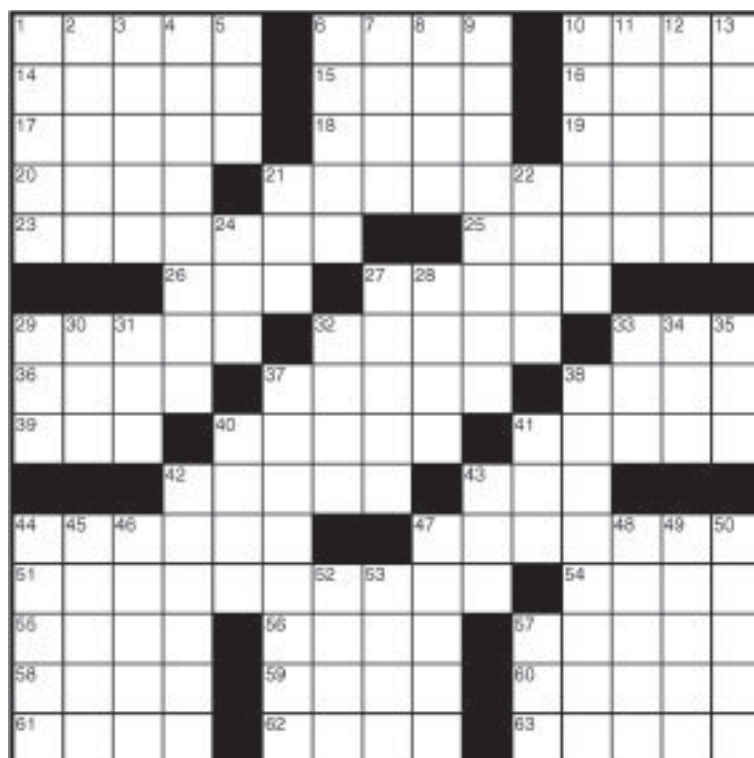
1 Fog or steam
6 Tim of oaters
10 Big brass
14 Flee to the JP
15 Hound's trail
16 401(k) cousins
17 DeGeneres sitcom
18 Quote
19 Lactern's place
20 Leonine sound
21 Tortilla melt
23 Channels
25 Elegant
26 Gridiron stats
27 Big celebrations
29 Pith helmets
32 Gem surface
33 Badminton stroke
36 Mr. Baldwin
37 Double-daters
38 Party centerpiece
39 Boise's st.
40 Ravine
41 Ordinary language
42 Kickboxer Jean-Claude Van —
43 British runner
44 Kimono part
47 Feels the cold
51 Pine product
54 Astronaut — Shepard
55 Drury Lane composer

Down

56 Weight deduction
57 Port near Kyoto
58 Like a peacock
59 Charles Lamb
60 Organic compound
61 Gazed at
62 Classroom fixture
63 Ebbets Field great
1 Swerves
2 Mete out
3 — front or bear
4 Theatrical
5 Cartoon Chihuahua
6 Magician's first word?
7 Garfield's dupe
8 Realty offerings
9 Foot pedals
10 Straightens up
11 Where Asia begins
12 Hits eject
13 Ore analysis
21 Gal. parts
22 Mild expletive
24 Name tags, briefly
27 Dial
28 North-forty unit
29 "— Pan" (Clavell novel)
30 Dilapidated
31 Green vegetable
32 Order blank

33 Philosopher — tzu
34 Rubber-stamps
35 Social insect
37 Stirred up
38 Glacial fissure
40 Handed over
41 Luau fare
42 Hinge on
43 Ernesto Guevara
44 Barrel slat
45 Virginia's — Caverns
46 Bert's pal
47 Kind of thief
48 Raise spirits
49 Garden tools
50 Pitfall, maybe
52 Poe offering
53 Rainbow goddess
57 Poet's contraction

Yesterday's answer





Rangers deal Callahan for top scorer St. Louis

NHL. The Rangers would not budge on his contract demands when the captain asked for a no-trade clause.

The Rangers lost their heart, soul and conscience Wednesday.

But in doing so, they may have signaled their intent to compete for the franchise's first Stanley Cup in two decades, as captain Ryan Callahan was traded to Tampa Bay for 38-year-old right wing Martin St. Louis following the morning skate at MSG.

"He helps us advance a little farther than expected," general manager Glen Sather said of St. Louis two hours before the Rangers faced the Maple Leafs, in which the right



Callahan was named captain before the start of the 2011 season, while St. Louis, inset, is a six-time All Star. / GETTY IMAGES

wing played after arriving from Tampa Bay. "There's a lot of contenders right now. If you look around the league, it's very close in each conference. Where we sit right now is very

close. Hopefully this will put us over the edge and [put] us a little closer to achieving that goal."

The Rangers also sent a 2014 second-round pick and a 2015 first-round pick

to Tampa Bay.

But the cost for St. Louis was worth absorbing, when weighed against Callahan's contract requests, Sather said. The two sides were reportedly only \$200,000 apart, but management balked at a no-trade clause.

"At some point in negotiating, you have to say no," Sather said. "In this case we had to say no because it got too far down the line to come back. At some point [in negotiating a] contract, you get to an end point where you can't go any farther — and we were there.

"We were getting closer on the money. The no-trade was the one thing that really bothered me in the end."

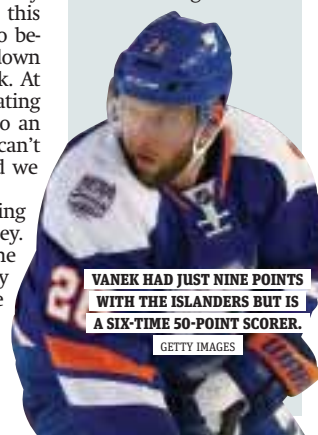
DENIS GORMAN
@DENISGORMAN
sports@metro.us

Vanek vamoose

Isles deal Vanek to Canadiens

Islanders general manager Garth Snow sold Thomas Vanek for pennies on the dollar on Wednesday's trade deadline.

Vanek, who was acquired in October for Matt Moulson and a first-round pick, returned a conditional second-round pick and prospect Sebastian Collberg. **METRO**



VANEK HAD JUST NINE POINTS WITH THE ISLANDERS BUT IS A SIX-TIME 50-POINT SCORER.

GETTY IMAGES

3

SPORTS

Watch online



Find video and recap of last night's Rangers-Maple Leafs game and the debut of Martin St. Louis at: Metro.us/sports.



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NHL power rankings | by Rich Slate

No. 1



**Ducks
(43-14-5)**

The Ducks have won both of their games since the Olympic break and three in a row overall. They didn't make any major deals at Wednesday's NHL trade deadline, but they did tweak their roster — dealing forward Dustin Penner, goaltender Viktor Fasth and acquiring defenseman Stephane Robidas.

No. 2



**Blues
(41-14-6)**

You could say that the Blues made the most important move of the trade deadline: grabbing goaltender Ryan Miller from Buffalo. It solves their one obvious weakness.

No. 3



**Penguins
(41-16-4)**

Pittsburgh general manager Ray Shero usually makes notables moves at the deadline but took this year off. Shero has to feel comfortable with his current group.

No. 4



**'Hawks
(36-13-14)**

As long as they don't suffer any major injuries to key players, the Blackhawks will still be an easy pick to win their second Cup in a row.

No. 5



**Bruins
(39-17-5)**

The B's didn't do much to address their blue line issues at the trade deadline and they're early in an insane stretch of six games in nine days.

No. 6



**Avalanche
(40-17-5)**

The Avalanche have won their last three games, proving that their pre-Olympic work wasn't a fluke. Still, it's hard to see this young team beating Anaheim or St. Louis.

No. 7



**Sharks
(39-17-7)**

The Sharks didn't do much at the deadline. Their next three games are at home against probable East playoff teams: Pittsburgh, Montreal and Toronto.

No. 8



**Kings
(35-22-6)**

No team in the NHL is hotter than the Kings as they won their last game before the break and have won their first four coming out of it.

No. 9



**Wild
(34-21-7)**

The Wild are right there with the Kings as they have also won five straight. They also acquired proven goal-scorer Matt Moulson.

No. 10



**Canadiens
(34-22-7)**

No team pulled off a more stealth move than Montreal. At the last minute, they swooped in and picked up Thomas Vanek for a second-round pick and a prospect.

No. 11



**Lightning
(34-23-5)**

Tampa Bay finally traded captain Martin St. Louis to the Rangers for their captain, Ryan Callahan. St. Louis is 38 and Callahan is 28. Not as lopsided a deal as it is on the surface.

No. 12



**Leafs
(32-23-8)**

For the first time since 2006, the Leafs didn't make a deadline move, which is interesting since they have plenty of holes to fill.

More rankings

Are you more of an NBA fan than an NHL one? We've got you covered on the court as well. Check out Metro's NBA power rankings online every Wednesday at www.metro.us/sports.

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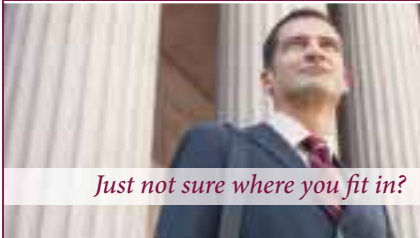
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